



ISSUES/DESCRIPTIONS REPORT

4th Quarter 2009

WBZ-TV Boston

WBZ-TV Boston, MA
Quarterly Issues/Program List
CBS Corporation

October 1 through December 31, 2009

Attached are listings of broadcasts or broadcast segments, which, in the station's judgment, reflect the station's most significant programming treatment of ascertained community issues during the preceding three-month period.

WBZ-TV broadcasts both locally produced and network programming. Although we include primarily local programs herein, WBZ-TV broadcasts several network programs, including Face The Nation, 60 Minutes, and 48 Hours, which we believe also serve community needs and interests.

PROGRAM INDEX

I-Team Reports – Reporters Kathy Curran and Joe Shortleeve provide an investigative look at major institutions and events within the viewing area. Issues related to government, politics, big business, financial issues, corruption and crime are explored in-depth during the station's newscasts. Duration: range from two minutes to four minutes. Air: Monday - Friday, 5pm, 6pm and 11pm.

Healthwatch – Medical Reporter Dr. Mallika Marshall reports on recent developments and potential treatments in medicine. Duration: one minute and thirty seconds. Air: Monday - Friday, 5pm, 6pm and 11pm.

“Centro” – Regularly scheduled news interview broadcast segment providing an in-depth exploration of issues concerning the Latino community with host Yadires Nova-Salcedo. Duration: four minutes and thirty seconds. Air: Saturday, 7:50am and Sunday, 7:25am.

Keller At Large – Political Analyst Jon Keller interviews local politicians and community leaders to create dialogue about current events and issues of importance to New England citizens. Duration: eight minutes. Air: Sunday, 8:45am.

Curiosity – is an on-going series where we ask viewers: What intrigues you? What interests you? What confuses you? WBZ-TV finds answers to what our viewers are curious about. Viewers go to www.declareyourcuriosity.com to let us know and they just may find their curiosities have made their way on to WBZ-TV. Duration: 2 minutes. Air: Monday-Friday 5pm, 6pm. 11pm.

"Wednesday's Child" - News anchor Jack Williams is successfully increasing public awareness of the needs of children waiting for adoptive families. These children are primarily school-aged children, children of color of all ages, sibling groups and children who face intellectual, physical or emotional challenges. Duration: 2-3 minutes. Air: Wednesday 6pm.

"What's in Our Community" – A 4-minute feature segment that airs within the 30-minute "What's in Store" program. "What's in Store" is a half hour program that highlights businesses and entrepreneurs in the region. The "What's in Our Community" piece features the outstanding work of a local charity and/or community outreach organization. Duration: 4-minutes within thirty-minute program. Air: Sunday, 11:00am.

I-Team

10/15/09: The I-Team's Joe Shortsleeve discovers some local criminals who are creating and selling fake cosmetology licenses, and he exposes a number of nail salons where the unlicensed nail technicians are employed.

10/26/09: The I-Team's Joe Shortsleeve teams up with the local FBI to investigate reports of child prostitution and the scope of this crime in Boston.

10/29/09: The I-Team's Joe Shortsleeve works with the state lottery to expose some store clerks who are stealing the winnings of unsuspecting lottery players.

11/2/09: The I-Team's Joe Shortsleeve exposes communities across the region where arsenic and uranium are detected in drinking water.

11/4/09: The I-Team's Joe Shortsleeve uncovers a number of costly safety problems, as well as questionable business decisions, at the MBTA.

11/9/09: The I-Team's Kathy Curran uncovers bars in the region where alcohol is being diluted to cut costs and customers being cheated.

11/11/09: The I-Team's Kathy Curran reports on a Revere fire fighter, who has not gone to work since last May, is still collecting a full paycheck from the city.

11/13/09: The I-Team's Kathy Curran reports on how several state agencies are investigating allegations of abuse and neglect at a group home licensed by the state.

11/16/09: The I-Team's Joe Shortsleeve investigates safety concerns about Boston cab drivers and state regulations that allow cabbies with poor driving records to stay employed.

11/18/09: The I-Team's Kathy Curran follows up on her report on a Revere fire fighter who has not gone to work since last May but collects a full paycheck. Now he may still receive retirement pay because of some state regulations.

11/20/09: The I-Team's Kathy Curran follows up on the investigation into handicapped parking abuses. Those drivers will now have their licenses suspended as punishment.

11/23/09: The I-Team's Joe Shortsleeve reports that the state spends almost \$3 million on leasing spaces that are not only a questionable perk but actually often empty.

11/24/09: The I-Team's Joe Shortsleeve reports this year's list from the state of the bars that are most guilty of over-serving customers and putting the public at risk.

11/25/09: The I-Team's Kathy Curran has found some companies are not paying the Boston Police Department for police details on construction sites or for crowd control. Millions of dollars are being lost at a time when every penny is needed.

12/4/09: The I-Team's Kathy Curran reports on how the Boston EMS is under investigation for the ways it responded to a medical emergency call of an off-duty Boston firefighter.

12/18/09: The I-Team's Kathy Curran gained access to the investigative video and audio interviews from the crash that killed a veteran of the Boston Fire Dept. Lt. Kevin Kelley. For the first time, we hear what happened from firefighter Robert O'Neill, the man behind the wheel when the brakes failed sending the truck speeding down the street out of control.

Healthwatch Reports

10/1/09: Healthwatch reports on how Harvard researchers are recruiting Framingham students for a skin cancer study.

10/2/09: Healthwatch reports on how breast cancer rates have fallen in the US.

10/5/09: Healthwatch reports on a new report which finds that autism is on the rise.

10/6/09: Healthwatch reports on how growing research suggests that stress may make allergies worse.

10/7/09: Healthwatch reports on how Health & Human services secretary, Kathleen Sebelius, is urging Americans to get H1N1 vaccine and says it is safe.

10/8/09: Healthwatch reports on how scientists have decoded DNA in breast tumors. Also, a new study finds that having shingles increases the stroke risk.

10/9/09: Healthwatch reports on how researchers have discovered that a certain virus is present in many patients with chronic fatigue syndrome.

10/12/09: Healthwatch reports on doctors who are trying to see if a breathing device, commonly used for premature babies, may help severely ill h1n1 patients.

10/13/09: Healthwatch reports on what foods may help lower a woman's risk of breast cancer.

10/14/09: Healthwatch reports on a new device which helps doctors monitor cardiac patients.

10/15/09: Healthwatch answered viewers' curiosity about Seasonal Affective Disorder.

10/16/09: Healthwatch reports on how taking Tylenol may make the flu vaccine less effective. Also, the FDA approves the use of Gardasil for boys who are 9-22 years old, and Cervarix for girls.

10/19/09: Healthwatch reports on a new study that finds many medical residents are not trained properly to perform skin cancer checks.

10/20/09: Healthwatch reports on how to detect age spots caused by sun and what products to use to eliminate them.

10/21/09: Healthwatch reports on how Boston health officials announce the update of the flu vaccination.

10/22/09: Healthwatch reports on how doctors have attached the first robotic hand that the patient can actually feel.

10/23/09: Healthwatch reports on how Mass. General Hospital is offering a new yoga class which incorporates laughter to relieve stress.

10/26/09: Healthwatch reports on a new study which finds that many children are not getting enough Vitamin D.

10/27/09: Healthwatch reports on how some chiropractors are using the new Atlas technique to help ease back pain.

10/29/09: Healthwatch reports on how the Lahey Clinic is using the new gamma breast imaging system.

10/30/09: Healthwatch reports on how the CDC is reporting more pediatric deaths from H1N1.

11/2/09: Healthwatch reports on how manufacturers are under fire for making claims that their cereals may boost immunity.

11/3/09: Healthwatch reports on how dentists are testing a new device that may help braces straighten teeth faster.

11/4/09: Healthwatch reports on new study out of Children's Hospital which looks at the most effective time to shut down schools due to flu cases.

11/6/09: Healthwatch reports on new study which finds that lowering obesity rates could lower cancer rates.

11/9/09: Healthwatch reports on people who are on low-carb diets and how their moods may differ to those on low-fat diets.

11/10/09: Healthwatch reports on what ingredients to look for when choosing over-the-counter cold remedies.

11/11/09: Healthwatch reports on an increase in the number of people requesting antibiotics to help prevent flu and the concerns on how that could increase prevalence of resistant strains.

11/12/09: Healthwatch reports on how a cabaret singer has started a non-profit organization to raise awareness and money for lung cancer research.

11/13/09: Healthwatch reports on a new National Institutes of Health study which determines which kind of thermometer should be used on each patient.

11/16/09: Healthwatch reports on how the US Preventive Task Force is releasing new guidelines requiring fewer mammograms for women.

11/17/09: Healthwatch reports on how many breast cancer survivors and experts are outraged by the new mammography guidelines.

11/18/09: Healthwatch reports on this year's list of the most dangerous toys.

11/19/09: Healthwatch reports on a new study that finds movie theater popcorn can contain up to 2,000 calories.

11/20/09: Healthwatch reports on the new cervical cancer screening guidelines.

11/23/09: Healthwatch reports on a new study on the link between cholesterol and heart failure.

11/24/09: Healthwatch reports on foods to eat or avoid to help prevent bloating.

11/25/09: Healthwatch reports on a new non-invasive procedure to treat heartburn.

12/1/09: Healthwatch reports on how consuming bacteria in probiotics and prebiotics can help boost your immune system

12/2/09: Healthwatch reports on how members of the Preventive Task Force will testify before Congress on why they issued new guidelines calling for fewer mammograms

12/3/09: Healthwatch reports on how a new survey finds that half of teens say they have suffered digital abuse via texting/sexting.

12/4/09: Healthwatch reports on how a new study finds that women who remove just one ovary with cancerous tumor instead of both still have good chances of survival.

12/7/09: Healthwatch reports on a new study on SIDS.

12/8/09: Healthwatch reports on how increased hand-washing is leading to increased incidence of eczema.

12/9/09: Healthwatch reports on how many patients suffer more migraines during holiday season due to stress, weather, and other triggers.

12/10/09: Healthwatch reports on tips to prevent holiday weight gain.

12/14/09: Healthwatch reports on how a new study finds that doses of radiation from commonly performed computed tomography (CT) scans vary widely, appear higher than generally believed, and may contribute to an estimated tens of thousands of future cancer cases.

12/15/09: Healthwatch reports on how the CDC is recalling 800,000 doses of children's H1N1 vaccine because levels are not high enough to protect kids. Also, the FDA recently approved a new supplement called Axona that may slow the effects of Alzheimer's

12/16/09: Healthwatch reports on how local families are lobbying for a new law to require insurance companies to pay for surgery to correct cleft palate and other birth defects.

12/17/09: Healthwatch reports on why it is still important for people to get H1N1 vaccine even though it appears outbreak is waning.

12/18/09: Healthwatch reports on new device called Zeltiq which allegedly helps melt fat.

12/21/09: Healthwatch reports on how Brigham & Women's Hospital secured a big military contract to perform face transplants.

12/22/09: Healthwatch reports on foods that can help boost your immune system to prevent colds and flu.

12/25/09: Healthwatch reports on how nurses at Boston Medical Center are collecting backpacks for pediatric trauma victims.

12/29/09: Healthwatch reports on how dentists are using a new button device that allows patients to alert them if they are in pain.

Ethnic Relations: "Centro"

10/3/09: Chichi Peralta is a talented musician and artist from the Dominican Republic who has taken his music outside his homeland and given it to the rest of the world to enjoy! This World Music superstar has won many awards and recognitions for his work, including a Latin Grammy in the year 2001. WBZ's Yadires Nova-Salcedo talks with Chichi Peralta about his new production "De Aquel Lao Del Rio".

10/10/09: "Success For Life" is a brand new program at the non-profit organization La Alianza Hispana in Boston that helps people who already speak English and are looking to take this knowledge to a whole different level. WBZ's Yadires Nova-Salcedo talks with its coordinator Sandy Blanes.

10/17/09: The Steppingstone Foundation is a non-profit organization that develops and implements free programs which prepare urban school children for educational opportunities that could lead to college. WBZ's Yadires Nova-Salcedo talks with the Foundation's Vice President of Programs, Yully Cha, about the different opportunities available to our students this year.

10/24/09: There is great news to report regarding Medicare and Medicaid services. Starting November 15th, Medicare beneficiaries have a wide range of plan options to choose from and those who decide to do so will find that choosing a new plan is a lot simpler than in previous years. WBZ's Yadires Nova-Salcedo talks with Carol Maloof, Acting Boston Regional Administrator for the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services.

10/31/09: Voting is one of our most important civic duties and this is exactly what we are expected to do on Election Day this coming Tuesday, November 3. Since the Latino community is the largest minority group, our vote and our participation could definitely have a big impact in these elections. WBZ's Yadires Nova-Salcedo talks with David Ortiz, Deputy Director for the non-partisan, non-profit organization MassVOTE.

11/7/09: The Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) is the world's largest and most successful annual workplace charitable campaign! There are more than 300 CFC campaigns throughout the country and the world, where federal employees have the opportunity to improve the quality of life for all. WBZ's Yadires Nova-Salcedo talks with CFC Loan Executive and U.S. Postal Service employee Dale Stafford about the work the CFC Campaign of Eastern Massachusetts is doing.

11/14/09: Asthma is the number one reason why children get admitted at Children's Hospital Boston. Because of this, the hospital created the Community Asthma Initiative, a program that educates and informs our community about asthma and how we can control it. WBZ's Yadires Nova-Salcedo talks with the program's Clinical Director, Susan Sommer.

11/21/09: There are 246 million people suffering from diabetes in the world and 2.5 million of them are Hispanics living in the United States. WBZ's Yadires Nova-Salcedo talks via satellite with Dr. Ivan Lugo and Journalist/TV Host Myrka Dellanos.

12/5/09: On Saturday December 12, the biggest Latino Christmas celebration in New England will be taking place at the Boston Convention & Exhibition Center, and this year, it promises to be better than ever! WBZ's Yadires Nova-Salcedo talks about "El Jolgorio Navideño" with Ramon Soto.

12/12/09: A new study shows that HIV/AIDS is on the rise among women and people of color in the United States. Today, women account for more than one quarter of all new HIV/AIDS cases, and Latina and African American women represent 79% of women living with the disease. WBZ's Yadires Nova-Salcedo talks via satellite with aids expert Dr. Carmen Zorrilla, about the GRACE (Gender, Race, And Clinical Experience) study. Tune in!

12/19/09: The holidays are here and the community is looking for ways to celebrate and give back. One wonderful way to celebrate the holidays is by donating to the "Thanks & Giving" campaign to benefits St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital. WBZ's Yadires Nova-Salcedo talks via satellite to Latin singing sensation Luis Fonsi about his long-time association with and dedication to the campaign.

12/26/09: WBZ-TV is the exclusive media partner of First Night Boston, the city's New Year's Eve Fireworks extravaganza...all proceeds benefit this non-profit's year-round outreach programs. WBZ's Yadires Nova-Salcedo speaks with First Night Executive Director Geri Guardino about this year's spectacular event.

Keller At Large

10/5/09: Keller discusses taxes and how Bob Katzen of Beacon Hill Roll Call has broken a good story about the sloppy handling of tax dollars.

10/6/09: Keller discusses the debate of whether or not President Obama is a baby-boomer.

10/7/09: Keller discusses the New York Post and the cartoon they ran last winter regarding President Obama.

10/8/09: Keller discusses Boston Globe columnist Bob Ryan's piece about Manny Ramirez and his performance since his return from his suspension for drugs.

10/9/09: Keller discusses President Obama's being awarded the Nobel Peace Prize.

10/11/09: Keller discusses how the New York Times notes that even humane medicinal use of marijuana is extremely risky business.

10/12/09: Keller discusses how many locals feel it was a disgrace that some fans booed Red Sox player Jonathan Papelbon as he left the field after blowing the most important game of the season.

10/13/09: Keller discusses popular conversational clichés and the ones that deserve to be buried for good.

10/14/09: Keller discusses the "positive" take on Mitt Romney's 2012 presidential campaign game plan. Also, Keller discusses the Wall Street Journal article about today's social-network communication.

10/15/09: Keller discusses how Massachusetts unemployment is on the rise.

10/16/09: Keller discusses how thousands were protesting a presidential appearance of President Obama in San Francisco.

10/19/09: Keller discusses why we fall for hoaxes and how to break the habit.

10/20/09: Keller discusses the lack of production from the Cape Cod Wind Farm and its impact on the environment.

10/21/09: Keller discusses how a Virginia man is targeted as a bad father for taking his 11-year-old son to Hooters for lunch. Also, Keller discusses how pharmacist Tarek Mehanna's terrorism charges were dismissed as ridiculous.

10/22/09: Keller discusses how President Obama attends a local fundraiser for Massachusetts Governor Deval Patrick.

10/25/09: Keller discusses the four democratic candidates running for the US Senate seat and their debate from the Kennedy Library which aired live on WBZ-TV.

10/26/09: Keller discusses the debate for the US Senate seat.

10/27/09: Keller discusses how President Obama neglected to mention the Cape Wind Project in his speech at MIT.

10/28/09: Keller discusses a USA Today/ Gallop Poll on the popularity of President Obama one year after his election.

10/29/09: Keller discusses a Boston Globe article on the number of local jobs created or saved by the stimulus package.

11/1/09: Keller discusses the resignation letter from former State Transportation Secretary Jim Aloisi.

11/3/09: Keller discusses the elections.

11/4/09: Keller discusses changing tactics in the same-sex marriage boycott.

11/5/09: Keller discusses how The Boston Globe has unveiled its latest list of “the most stylish Bostonians.”

11/9/09: Keller discusses former US Secretary of Labor, Robert Reich’s ill fated 2002 run for governor. Also, Keller discusses the Rhode Island girls’ soccer brawl.

11/10/09: Keller discusses Vice President Joe Biden’s eloquence in a ceremony honoring soldiers who were killed in Afghanistan. Also, Keller discusses the 40th anniversary of Sesame Street.

11/11/09: Keller discusses the grade inflation practices of American institutions of “higher learning.”

11/16/09: Keller discusses the New England Patriots blowing a big lead and losing the game against the Colts in the final seconds and how some fans took their unhappiness to extremes.

11/17/09: Keller discusses how Foxwoods Casino’s bonds were downgraded to junk status by a major bond-rating agency.

11/19/09: Keller discusses the movie theatre popcorn study which find the snack very unhealthy and its relation to the promises of better, cheaper healthcare.

11/23/09: Keller discusses Martha Coakley’s impressive Senate poll results.

11/25/09: Keller discusses “What are you thankful for?”

11/28/09: Keller discusses Governor Patrick’s attempt to stall/kill the progress of major wind-energy development in Massachusetts.

11/29/09: Keller discusses how the only major Massachusetts elected official who has seen fit to endorse the only woman in the field for US Senate is the only major female elected official: Rep. Niki Tsongas.

11/30/09: Keller discusses Tiger Woods and his unfortunate situation with marital instability.

12/1/09: Keller discusses the Top 10 Online Searches of 2009.

12/2/09: Keller discusses Senate candidate Mike Capuano's hypocrisy and in-consistent views.

12/3/09: Keller discusses people with anti-President Obama points of view.

12/4/09: Keller discusses the US Senate race.

12/7/09: Keller discusses Governor Deval Patrick and his alleged concerns about the House's delay of a vote on education legislation.

12/8/09: Keller continues to discuss the US Senate race and the candidates involved.

12/9/09: Keller discusses how endorsements are virtually meaningless.

12/17/09: Keller discusses internet disruptions and the lifestyle impact on so many dependant users.

12/20/09: Keller reviews US Senate candidates Scott Brown's and Martha Coakley's positions on healthcare.

12/21/09: Keller reports and reviews the US Senate candidates' debate hosted by WBZ-AM Radio.

12/22/09: Keller reports and reviews the US Senate candidates' debate hosted by WBZ-TV News that later aired in full on WBZ-TV News on 12/27/09.

12/23/09: Keller reports that the Heaneys, the Colorado couple accused of causing the infamous "balloon boy" hoax, are sentenced to jail, and the judge prohibits the couple from ever profiting from their crime.

12/24/09: Keller interviews Santa who shares his list of the local leaders and the nationally notorious who have been "naughty and nice" in 2009.

12/27/09: WBZ-TV News "Election Special: The US Senate Candidates Debate."

12/28/09: Keller talks to a local professor, who labeled college students as “slackers” in a Boston Globe Op Ed piece, about her assertion and the backlash she is receiving.

12/29/09: Keller reports his list of the biggest news stories of the decade.

Curiosity

10/6/09: Viewers are curious as to why anger is a good sign for the economy. The recession has created high anxiety and the big bailouts have stoked rage. Financial advisor, David Caruso, told WBZ that the good news about this is when people are angry it usually means it's late in the cycle of the economy, and that this emotional negative can be a positive. He also says the middle class is benefiting from the stimulus.

10/6/09: Viewers are curious as to why NASA will spend \$79M to bomb the moon. WBZ's Lisa Hughes reports that NASA will fire a missile into the surface of the moon to find out if there is water or ice.

10/7/09: Viewers are curious as to where all the seasonal flu vaccines went. There has been a lot of attention on the arrival of the H1N1, but what about the regular seasonal vaccine? WBZ's David Wade found out that the health care industry is not immune to market forces. Walgreens, CVS, Stop and Shop, Target, and Wal-Mart pharmacies have an advantage because they can shift supplies to their stores around the country.

10/9/09: Viewers are curious as to why the Sharon, MA 'little dig' is taking so long. Why is it taking so long to fix the bridge at the busy intersection of Route 1 and Interstate 95? The Department of Transportation told WBZ that when they started the original two-year project to replace the deck on the bridge they found several structural steel deficiencies that had to be fixed. The target date is now September 2010- a delay of more than two years.

10/12/09: Viewers are curious about the 6-year-old Cub Scout who was suspended for having a 'weapon' in school. Zachary Christie was suspended from 1st grade class in Delaware's Christina School District after bringing a camping utensil (knife/fork/spoon combination tool) to use at lunch. Some think this is unfair while there is also strict enforcement of the zero tolerance policies. WBZ found that another revision to the law is being drafted to address suspensions.

10/14/09: Viewers are curious as to why high occupancy vehicle (HOV) lane rules aren't enforced. WBZ's David Wade reports that the State Police have jurisdiction over the highway and say there is no money for a paid detail to monitor the lane every day. Their goal is to patrol the area 2-3 mornings per week, but that presence varies according to the available resources.

10/15/09: Viewers are curious as to why gloomy weather gets us down. The National Institute for Mental Health estimates that about ten-percent of Americans suffer from

Seasonal Affective Disorder. The most effective treatment for the condition is photo light therapy- special light boxes which simulate sunshine.

10/16/09: Viewers are curious about the money spent on mile markers. WBZ's David Wade reports that the total price for placing these markers all over the state is \$1.7M. The purpose of the signs is to tell you exactly where you are in case your car breaks down or you have an accident.

10/19/09: Viewers are curious about sales tax while shopping online. WBZ found that certain stores are required to collect the state sales tax if they have physical stores in the state you are living in.

10/21/09: Viewers are curious as to why there are so many ladybugs lately. Linda O'Brien of Ladybug Pest Control Services in Quincy says she had not received a call about ladybugs in 10 years but received three calls recently. She says the ladybugs are looking for a place to hibernate now that the weather is getting cooler.

10/22/09: Viewers are curious about a free program that helps texting drivers stay safe. WBZ's Jonathan Elias reports that Matt Howard created ZoomSafer, a program that works on smart phones that have GPS. When your phone is traveling 10 miles per hour, the keyboard shuts down so you can't text.

10/22/09: Viewers are curious if elderly drivers are taking safety seriously. There was a series of highly publicized summer and fall accidents involving elderly drivers in Massachusetts. WBZ's Jonathan Elias reports on a special "Older and Wiser Driver" clinic run by AAA of Southern New England and the Dennis Police Department, in which the elderly re-learn the basics.

10/22/09: Viewers are curious as to how much President Obama's Boston visit will cost. The Mayor's office told WBZ that the rough estimate based on the assignment of 100 police officers for six hours at \$55 an hour would add up to about \$33,000 for the city. The White House says that the travel costs for presidential trips that include political business are divided up. The actual cost is not available yet.

10/22/09: Viewers are curious about why property taxes don't match home values. Bib Ellia, Executive Director of the Massachusetts Association of Assessing Officers, tells WBZ that when assessors put a value on your house each December, it is based on home sale figures from two years ago. If the real estate market was high back then, your assessment and property taxes will be high today. Homeowners can look up the date on record at the assessor's office, or in many towns the information is available online.

10/26/09: Viewers are curious about the ugly 'double poles,' a new utility pole attached to an old one. WBZ's David Wade reports that the utilities argue that they can't force other companies to move their wires in a timely fashion. So while it's apparently too complex to obey the law, it's also too easy for the utilities to side step the rules. There is

a bill before state legislators that would hit utilities with a fine if they don't comply with the rules.

10/28/09: Viewers are curious about "construction flaggers." WBZ's Beth Germano reports that using flaggers has been controversial since the state has long had a policy of using police details to control traffic. The state estimates civilian flaggers are paid an average prevailing wage of \$35 an hour, while police details receive \$38 an hour. The state lets police details make the extra money instead of hiring the civilians.

10/30/09: Viewers are curious as to where all the birds and squirrels have gone. Wayne Petersen studies birds for Mass Audubon, and has a theory that the wet summer resulted in a big, natural food supply of berries, fruit and seeds. The birds would rather eat that out in the woods than visit feeders. The rainy summer could also mean some bird species had trouble nesting.

11/6/09: Viewers are curious about a new law requiring old oil tank upgrades. David Wade reports that the law requires residential property owners with heating oil tanks that have unprotected fuel supply/return lines in direct contact with a floor surface to either enclose the line with a continuous non-metallic sleeve, or install an oil safety valve on the fuel line. This will prevent further possible catastrophic incidents from occurring.

11/12/09: Viewers are curious about parents who fight a school store's religious items ban. The Byam School in Chelmsford operates a small gift store that sells various items. One mother, Katheryn McMillian, says they're banning Christmas gifts, Chanukah items and even Kwanza. She doesn't think diversity means excluding views.

11/12/09: Viewers are curious about trucks' black smoke and pollution. Do trucks get inspected as often as regular vehicles? Do trucks have to meet some minimum standard of pollution emissions? WBZ found out that they do, and it just got tougher. Inspections are now yearly instead of every two years.

11/14/09: Viewers are curious as to why holiday music is played on market radio stations so early in the season. J.J. Wright from 103.3 WODS says it's because the listeners want it. Some want it after Thanksgiving and some want it right after Halloween.

11/17/09: Viewers are curious about breakdown lane drivers. When it is allowed, is it a good idea? State Police say they do what they can to keep traffic moving and roads safe, and they say they are looking for violators who don't obey the lane laws.

11/20/09: Viewers are curious about the \$25 fee to fight traffic tickets. WBZ found out that it now costs \$25 to have a hearing in court to say "I didn't do it!"

11/23/09: Viewers are curious about teen driving and safety. Parents are worrying about letting their children get their licenses and postpone their driving tests in order to give them more practice.

12/1/09: Viewers are curious about why there are so many moths. WBZ learned that they're called Winter Moths from Europe and they most likely hitchhiked to New England by attaching themselves to crates containing imported products. Since they have no natural predators here, their population is swelling.

12/2/09: Viewers are curious why the "Rag Doll" in the "Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer" cartoon has been labeled a "Misfit Toy" when she appears fine. Experts say it is because the writers suggest she has psychological issues.

12/7/09: Viewers are curious if recorded "robo-calls" from candidates during election season can be stopped under the "Do Not Call List" guidelines. WBZ found out that those calls are exempt and the campaigns must be called directly to have them stopped.

12/9/09: Viewers are curious why "Weigh Stations" on state highways are almost always are closed. WBZ found out that the hours of operation have been restricted due to state budget cuts.

12/10/09: Viewers are curious why prices on the same or similar food products vary from store to store. WBZ found this is called "zone pricing" and that retailers and supermarkets price differently in different towns.

12/11/09: Viewers are curious why tickets sold by brokers are more expensive. WBZ found that state law says brokers can charge whatever the market will pay...and that depends on demand.

12/14/09: Viewers are curious if waiting online for the opportunity to buy Red Sox tickets is a good idea. Sox officials say yes and no...it takes a long time online but it eliminates headaches in line at the ticket window.

12/15/09: Viewers are curious why some state highways are so dark. WBZ found out many highway lighting systems are broken and the state cannot allocate funds to have the street lamps repaired.

12/16/09: Viewers are curious why the cost of college tuition continues to skyrocket. WBZ spoke to experts who said college costs are set by supply and demand: When you have more students competing for the same number of spots, costs rise.

12/17/09: Viewers are curious why the "on hold" time is so long when calling the Registry of Motor vehicles. WBZ found out the answer is limited staffing, operational budget cuts, and an antiquated phone system.

12/28/09: Viewers are curious why school fees seem to be higher than ever before. WBZ found out it is because of the growth of Special Education needs, the growth in computer

technology which is now an expensive priority, and class sizes have come down so more teachers are needed.

What's In Our Community

10/4/09: Making Strides Against Breast Cancer is the American Cancer Society's premier event. See how much of an impact it's had here and across the country.

10/11/09: Learn how South Shore Hospital's signature fall event, the Moonlight & Miracles gala, helps raise money to support cancer care programs at the hospital.

10/18/09: Did you know that Haverhill is known as "Shoe City"? See how the Greater Haverhill Chamber of Commerce is celebrating the city's history in a unique way.

10/25/09: Rosie's Place is celebrating 35 years as a sanctuary for Boston's poor and homeless women. Learn how their "Funny Women, Serious Business" event is helping kick off their busy holiday season.

11/01/09: Learn how the One Mission foundation is helping enhance the lives of pediatric cancer patients and their families during the most difficult time.

11/8/09: Upstage Lung Cancer presents "Life is a Cabaret"! Learn how the organization and the musical fundraiser are benefitting awareness and research.

11/15/09: Good Sports is hosting its inaugural "Girls Night Out" event. Learn how this fun night will end up helping disadvantaged kids who want to play sports.

11/22/09: No holiday meal would be complete without pie! See how buying one through Pie in the Sky will end up helping a neighbor in need.

11/29/09: It's been described as the holiday present just waiting to be opened. See how The Christmas Revels is celebrating the winter solstice with extraordinary music, singing and dance from the heart of America.

12/6/09: The performers at the Improv Asylum will keep you laughing for 24 hours straight, all while benefitting children in need. Find out how you can help them support Globe Santa.

12/13/09: First Night is one of Boston's signature events. In addition to the New Year's festivities, learn how they support the arts and the community all year round.

12/20/09: See how Bob's Discount Furniture \$100,000 High School Heroes Scholarship Program is helping the American Red Cross save lives.

12/27/09: There's a growing number of families in Massachusetts who cannot cover the basic costs of living. See how the United Way's "Family Financial Stability Fund" is offering much needed help.

This Quarterly Issues/Program List was placed in the Public File on January 9, 2010 by Ro Dooley Webster, Director of Communications and Public Affairs.